

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 04231 040942Z
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DOE-15 SOE-02 PA-02
L-03 /096 W

-----016378 041256Z /45

R 040618Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8138

UNCLAS TEHRAN 4231

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, IR
SUBJECT: RENOVATION BAN ON FACTORIES LIFTED

REF: TEHRAN 944

1. ON APRIL 19, EXECUTIVE UNDERSECRETARY OF MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES AND MINES ANNOUNCED THAT TEN-YEAR BAN ON RENOVATION OF FACTORIES WITHIN 120 KM RADIUS OF TEHRAN CITY LIMITS NO LONGER IN EFFECT. THIS FORMALIZED A DE FACTO LIFTING OF PROHIBITION THAT WAS MADE PUBLIC ON JANUARY 23 (REFTEL. COMPANIES WISHING TO RENOVATE MYA APPLY TO MINISTRY AND PERMISSION WILL BE GRANTED IF CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET, MAINLY THAT RENOVATION WILL NOT REQUIRE INCREASED LABOR FORCE OR WATER CONSUMPTION. EXPANSION INTO NEW LINES OF PRODUCTION NOT PERMITTED. THIS POLICY CHANGE WILL STIMULATE IMPORTS OF PRODUCTION EQUIPMENT WHICH IS HIGHLY AUTOMATED, NON-POLLUTING AND ENERGY SAVING (IN VIEW OF RECURRENT ENERGY SHORTAGES).

2. BAN WAS INSTATED IN 1967 TO PREVENT CONCENTRATION OF POPULATION AND INDUSTRY AROUND THE CAPITAL, BUT IN FACT IT HAS SLOWED DOWN THE AMOUNT OF CONGESTION RATHER THAN PREVENTED IT. IN SPITE OF BAN, MANY NEW FACTORIES
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HAVE BEEN BUILT AROUND TEHRAN SINCE 1967.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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